

# Approved Medications to Treat HIV Infection

Anti-HIV (also called antiretroviral) medications are used to control the reproduction of the virus and to slow the progression of HIV-related disease. Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART) is the recommended treatment for HIV infection. HAART combines three or more anti-HIV medications in a daily regimen. Anti-HIV medications do not cure HIV infection and individuals taking these medications can still transmit HIV to others. Anti-HIV medications approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) fall into four classes:

Class	Generic Name	Brand & Other Names	Manufacturer	FDA Approval Date
<b>1. Nonnucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NNRTIs)</b>				
<i>NNRTIs bind to and disable reverse transcriptase, a protein that HIV needs to make more copies of itself.</i>	<b>Delavirdine</b>	Rescriptor, DLV	Pfizer	April 4, 1997
	<b>Efavirenz</b>	Sustiva, EFV	Bristol-Myers Squibb	Sept. 17, 1998
	<b>Nevirapine</b>	Viramune, NVP	Boehringer Ingelheim	June 21, 1996
<b>2. Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors (NRTIs)</b>				
<i>NRTIs are faulty versions of building blocks that HIV needs to make more copies of itself. When HIV uses an NRTI instead of a normal building block, reproduction of the virus is stalled.</i>	<b>Abacavir</b>	Ziagen, ABC	GlaxoSmithKline	Dec. 17, 1998
	<b>Abacavir, Lamivudine</b>	Epzicom	GlaxoSmithKline	Aug. 2, 2004
	<b>Abacavir, Lamivudine, Zidovudine</b>	Trizivir	GlaxoSmithKline	Nov. 14, 2000
	<b>Didanosine</b>	Videx, dDI, Videx EC	Bristol-Myers Squibb	Oct. 9, 1991 Oct. 31, 2000 (EC)
	<b>Emtricitabine</b>	Emtriva, FTC, Coviracil	Gilead Sciences	July 2, 2003
	<b>Emtricitabine, Tenofovir DF</b>	Truvada	Gilead Sciences	Aug. 2, 2004
	<b>Lamivudine</b>	Epivir, 3TC	GlaxoSmithKline	Nov. 17, 1995
	<b>Lamivudine, Zidovudine</b>	Combivir	GlaxoSmithKline	Sept. 27, 1997
	<b>Stavudine</b>	Zerit, d4T	Bristol-Myers Squibb	June 24, 1994
	<b>Tenofovir DF</b>	Viread, TDF	Gilead Sciences	Oct. 26, 2001
	<b>Zalcitabine</b>	Hivid, ddC	Hoffmann-La Roche	June 19, 1992
	<b>Zidovudine</b>	Retrovir, AZT, ZDV	GlaxoSmithKline	March 19, 1987

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<b>3. Protease Inhibitors (PIs)</b>				
<i>PIs disable protease, a protein that HIV needs to make more copies of itself.</i>	<b>Amprenavir</b>	Agenerase, APV	GlaxoSmithKline, Vertex Pharmaceuticals	April 15, 1999
	<b>Atazanavir</b>	Reyataz, ATV	Bristol-Myers Squibb	June 20, 2003
	<b>Fosamprenavir</b>	Lexiva, FPV	GlaxoSmithKline, Vertex Pharmaceuticals	Oct. 20, 2003
	<b>Indinavir</b>	Crixivan, IDV	Merck	March 13, 1996
	<b>Lopinavir, Ritonavir</b>	Kaletra, LPV/r	Abbott Laboratories	Sept. 15, 2000
	<b>Nelfinavir</b>	Viracept, NFV	Agouron Pharmaceuticals	March 14, 1997
	<b>Ritonavir</b>	Norvir, RTV	Abbott Laboratories	March 1, 1996
	<b>Saquinavir</b>	Fortovase, SQV, Invirase	Hoffmann-La Roche	Nov. 7, 1997 Dec. 6, 1995
<b>4. Fusion Inhibitors</b>				
<i>Fusion inhibitors work by blocking HIV entry into cells.</i>	<b>Enfuvirtide</b>	Fuzeon, T-20	Hoffmann-La Roche, Trimeris	March 13, 2003